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Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A track writing apparatus comprising:
5 a base;
an actuator block having a central cavity therein;
a rotational bearing within the central cavity of the actuator block for supporting
an E-block having at least one actuator arm carrying at least one transducer for recording
information on a data storage disc; and
10 a translational gas bearing operable to move the actuator block between a first
position on the base and a second position on the base.
2. The track writing apparatus of claim 1 wherein the translational gas bearing
includes a groove formed in a face of the actuator block, abutting a surface of the base.
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3. The track writing apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a slide mechanism
coupled between the base and the actuator block for moving the actuator block on the
translational gas bearing between the first and second positions.
- 20 4. The track writing apparatus of claim 2 wherein the first position is a servo-
recording position adjacent the data storage discs and the second disc position is spaced for
loading and unloading data storage discs.
5. The track writing apparatus of claim 2 wherein the groove is continuous.
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6. The track writing apparatus of claim 1 wherein the gas bearing has a rotatable
spindle carrying an adaptor plate supporting the E-block.
7. The track writing apparatus of claim 6 further comprising a motor coupled to the
30 rotatable spindle for positioning the transducer.

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8. The track writing apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a corner cube couple to the adaptor plate to provide angular positional information of the E-block.

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9. The track writing apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a stop positioned on the actuator block adjacent the surface and a catch supported by the platform, wherein the stop interacts with the catch to limit movement of the actuator assembly.

10. An actuator assembly for recording information onto a disc surface in a multi-disc track writer, the actuator assembly comprising:

an E-block having one or more elongated actuator arms, each actuator arm having a distally located recording head; and

a stationary vibrationless means for rotating the E-block in the actuator assembly to position the recording heads over a disc surface.

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11. The actuator assembly of claim 10 wherein the vibrationless means for rotating the E-block is a rotational gas bearing.

12. The actuator assembly of claim 10 wherein the gas bearing has a rotatable spindle fastened to the E-block.

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13. The actuator assembly of claim 10 further comprising means for moving the actuator between a recording position and a disc loading and unloading position.

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14. The actuator assembly of claim 13 wherein the means for moving the actuator includes a translational gas bearing.

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15. The actuator assembly of claim 14 wherein the means for moving further includes a slide mechanism for moving the actuator assembly along a platform surface.